In the Claims

Please amend the claims to read as follows, without prejudice to future continuing applications.

- 1. (ORIGINAL) A transition metal complex with 2,2'-bis[bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-methoxyphenyl)phosphino]-1,1'-binaphthyl as a ligand.
- 2. (ORIGINAL) The transition metal complex according to claim 1, wherein the transition metal is rhodium, ruthenium, iridium, palladium, nickel or copper.
- 3. (ORIGINAL) The transition metal complex according to claim 1, wherein the transition metal is rhodium, ruthenium, iridium, palladium or nickel.
- 4. (ORIGINAL) The transition metal complex according to claim 1, wherein the transition metal is rhodium.
- 5. (ORIGINAL) The transition metal complex according to claim 1, wherein the transition metal is ruthenium.
- 6. (ORIGINAL) The transition metal complex according to claim 1, which is represented by Ru(L)(AcO)₂ wherein L denotes 2,2'-bis[bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-methoxyphenyl)phosphino]-1,1'-binaphthyl and Ac denotes acetyl.

- 7. (ORIGINAL) The transition metal complex according to claim 1, which is represented by Ru(L)Cl₂ wherein L denotes 2,2'-bis[bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-methoxyphenyl)phosphino]-1,1'-binaphthyl.
- 8. (ORIGINAL) The transition metal complex according to claim 1, which is represented by Ru(L)Cl₂(dmf)_n wherein L denotes 2,2'-bis[bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-methoxyphenyl)phosphino]1,1'-binaphthyl and dmf denotes N,N-dimethylformamide.
- 9. (ORIGINAL) The transition metal complex according to claim 1, which is represented by [Rh(L)(cod)]OTf wherein L denotes 2,2'-bis[bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-methoxyphenyl)phosphino]-1,1'-binaphthyl, cod denotes 1,5-cyclooctadiene, and Tf denotes trifluoromethylsulfonyl.
- 10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process for preparing a compound represented by the formula:

$$R^{1}$$
 R^{1}
 R'
 OR^{2}

wherein * denotes the position of asymmetric carbon and the other symbols are as defined below, or a salt thereof, which comprises reducing a compound represented by the formula:

wherein R¹ denotes an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group, R' denotes a halogen atom, optionally substituted alkylsulfonyloxy or optionally substituted arylsulfonyloxy, and R² denotes an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, or a salt thereof in the presence of a transition metal complex with 2,2'-bis[bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-methoxyphenyl)phosphino]-1,1'-binaphthyl as a ligand.

11. (ORIGINAL) A process for preparing a compound represented by the formula:

$$R^{1}$$
 * $CO_{2}R^{2}$

wherein respective symbols are as defined below, or a salt thereof, which comprises reducing a compound represented by the formula:

wherein R¹ denotes an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group, R" denotes a chlorine atom, a bromine atom, an iodine atom, optionally substituted alkylsulfonyloxy or optionally substituted arylsulfonyloxy, and R² denotes an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, or a salt thereof in the presence of a transition metal complex in a solvent selected from an alcohol solvent, a hydrocarbon solvent, an ether solvent, an ester solvent, a ketone solvent, a nitrile solvent, a sulfoxide solvent and an amide solvent, or a mixed solvent of two or more kinds of them, to obtain a compound represented by the formula:

wherein * denotes the position of asymmetric carbon and the other symbols are as defined above, or a salt thereof, and then cyclizing the resulting compound in the presence of an inorganic base.

12. (ORIGINAL) The process according to claim 11, wherein the compound represented by the formula:

$$R^{1}$$
 $*$ $CO_{2}R^{2}$

wherein R¹ denotes an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group, R² denotes an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, and * denotes the position of asymmetric carbon, is an optically active compound represented by the formula:

$$R^1$$
 CO_2R^2

wherein respective symbols are as defined above, or the formula:

$$R^{1$$
MIT. CO_2R^2

wherein respective symbols are as defined above.

13. (ORIGINAL) The process according to claim 11, wherein the compound represented by the formula:

$$R^{1}$$
 \star
 \star
 $R^{"}$
 \circ

wherein R¹ denotes an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group, R" denotes a chlorine atom, a bromine atom, an iodine atom, optionally substituted alkylsulfonyloxy or optionally substituted arylsulfonyloxy, R² denotes an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, and * denotes the position of asymmetric carbon, is an optically active compound represented by the formula:

$$\mathbb{R}^1 \xrightarrow[\mathbb{R}^n]{} \mathbb{O}\mathbb{R}^2$$

wherein respective symbols are as defined above, or the formula:

$$\mathbb{R}^{1} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{R}^{n}} \mathbb{O}\mathbb{R}^{2}$$

wherein respective symbols are as defined above.

14. (ORIGINAL) The process according to claim 11, wherein R" is a chlorine atom, a bromine atom or an iodine atom.

- 15. (ORIGINAL) The process according to claim 11, wherein the inorganic base is alkali metal carbonate.
- 16. (ORIGINAL) The process according to claim 11, wherein the solvent for reduction is an alcohol solvent.
- 17. (ORIGINAL) The process according to claim 11, wherein the transition metal complex is a transition metal complex with 2,2'-bis[bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-methoxyphenyl)phosphino]-1,1'-binaphthyl as a ligand.
- 18. (ORIGINAL) A process for preparing a compound represented by the formula:

$$\mathbb{R}^3$$
 \mathbb{R}^4

wherein * denotes the position of asymmetric carbon and the other symbols are as defined below, or a salt thereof, which comprises reacting a compound represented by the formula:

$$R^3$$

wherein R^3 denotes a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl, or a salt thereof with a compound represented by the formula: R^4 - R^{**} " wherein R^4 denotes optionally substituted phenyl and R^{**} " denotes a leaving group, or a salt thereof in the presence of a transition metal complex with 2,2'-bis[bis(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-methoxyphenyl)phosphino]-1,1'-binaphthyl as a ligand.